

Pastoralists Areas Resilience Improvement and Market Expansion (PRIME) Project

Funded by the United States Agency for International Development Ethiopia

Quarter 2 – January – March 2013



A Dida Dheda (management unit) leader explains how site rehabilitation is strengthened by customary institutions and supporting landscape level rangeland management.



A degraded site shows the "false green" of prosopis taking over former pastureland



| COUNTRY CONTACT | HEADQUARTERS CONTACT | PROJECT SUMMARY | |
|---|---|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Name: Karri Goeldner Byrne | Name: Nathan Oetting | Award No. | AID-663-A-12-00014 |
| Chief of Party | Senior Program Officer | Start Date | October 15, 2012 |
| | 45 SW Ankeny | End Date | October 14, 2017 |
| Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, PO BOX 14319 | Portland, Oregon, USA | Report Date | October - December 2012 |
| Phone: (251-11) 416-9337 | Phone: +1(503) 796-6800 | Total Award | \$ 48,722,807 |
| Fax: (251-11) 416-9571 | Fax: +1 (503) 796-6844 | | |
| Email: kbyrne@et.mercycorps.org | Email: noetting@mercycorps.org | | |

Table of Contents

| | | |
|-------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | 2 |
| 1.1 | Summary Table | 3 |
| 2. | CORRELATION TO MONITORING PLAN | 4 |
| 3. | RESULT BY RESULT ANALYSIS | 4 |
| 3.0 | Start-up and Mobilization | 4 |
| 3.1 | Result 1: Improved productivity and competitiveness of livestock and livestock products | 6 |
| 3.1.1 | Update and Analysis | 6 |
| 3.1.2 | Achievement of Results | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| 3.1.3 | Challenges..... | 8 |
| 3.2 | Result 2: Enhance pastoralists adaptation to climate change | 9 |
| 3.2.1 | Update and Analysis | 9 |
| 3.2.2 | Achievement of Results | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| 3.2.3 | Challenges..... | 12 |
| 3.3 | Result 3: Strengthened alternative livelihoods for households transitioning out of pastoralism | 12 |
| 3.3.1 | Update and Analysis | 12 |
| 3.2 | Achievement of Results | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| 3.3.3 | Challenges..... | 13 |
| 3.4 | Result 4: Enhanced innovation, learning and knowledge management | 13 |
| 3.4.1 | Update and Analysis | 13 |
| 3.4.2 | Achievement of Results | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| 3.4.3 | Challenges..... | 15 |
| 4. | MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION | 15 |
| 4.1 | Offices, Equipment and Logistics | 15 |
| 4.2 | Personnel and Staffing | 16 |
| 4.2.1 | New Hires and Departures | 16 |
| 4.2.2 | Priority Recruitment | 18 |
| 4.2.3 | International Consultants and STTA | 18 |
| 4.3 | Partners..... | 18 |
| 4.3.1 | PRIME Consortium Partner Updates..... | 18 |
| 4.3.2 | Other Collaborating Partners | 18 |
| 5. | PLANNED ACTIVITIES..... | 19 |
| 6. | FINANCIAL SUMMARY | 19 |
| | ANNEX 1 – SUCCESS STORIES..... | Error! Bookmark not defined. |

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PRIME is a five-year, USAID-funded initiative designed to support resilience among pastoralist communities in Ethiopia, and thus enhance prospects for long-term development in Ethiopia's dryland landscape where the pastoralist livelihood system prevails. Financed through Feed the Future (FTF) and Global Climate Change (GCC) facilities, program is designed to be transformative, innovative and achieve scale through market-driven approaches to livestock production and livelihood diversification that simultaneously support dryland communities to adapt to a changing climate. In order to achieve its overall goal of **Increasing Household Incomes and Enhancing Resilience to Climate Change Through Market Linkages**, the program works to meet the following four major objectives (intermediate results):

- 1) Improved productivity and competitiveness of livestock and livestock products;
- 2) Enhanced pastoralists' adaptation to climate change;
- 3) Strengthened alternative livelihoods for households transitioning out of pastoralism; and
- 4) Ensure enhanced innovation, learning and knowledge management.

During the second quarter of implementation (January – March 2013), the PRIME consortium continued to set up field offices, fill important team member positions, train existing and new staff on program strategies, complete and submit key program documentation (EMMP, PMP), prepare for the upcoming baseline survey and further rolled out the PRIME program to key stakeholders throughout the country.

Highlights of activities during the reporting period include:

- Five partner agreements signed with implementing partners CARE, Kimetrica, Pastoralist Concern, SOS Sahel, and Haramaya University.
- The Environmental Management and Mitigation Plan (EMMP) was finalized by the PRIME program team, and approved by USAID in March.
- Learning Workshops were conducted by CARE on PRIME Climate Change Adaptation Strategies and CVCA Methodology.
- A participatory value chain exercise was conducted, as the first step in the Value Chain Analyses.
- United States Forest Service Proposal Development Mission discussed technical support options to the PRIME project
- The program team held a field experience-sharing and learning workshop around Pastoralist Livelihoods Initiative II (PLI II) at Borena-Guji Community-based Natural Resource Management Sites.
- The team conducted a rapid assessment and secondary research around *prosopis* value chain.
- The Afar Regional government was visited and introduced to PRIME.
- The Workplan & PMP were both finalized and submitted.
- Finalized the design and rollout of M&E and Partner Reporting System.
- Consortium and Partner Management Information Tools were developed by the program team.

Highlights of our results during the reporting period include:

Result 1: First IIF proposal was reviewed and approved by the committee, and a draft IIF manual was produced. Recruitment for the IFF Manager is ongoing.

Result 2: Thirty-seven PRIME managers and/or technical leaders from 7 partner organization have gained a common understanding of PRIME's approach to Climate Change Adaptation.

Result 3: Seventy-five members of the PRIME team trained in market-based approaches. Fifteen Value Chains were selected for further assessment.

Result 4: The methodology and scope of supporting access to scientific information for climate resilient NRM has been defined with USFS.

Result 5: Eighteen community leaders and 20 government representatives representing 2 woredas, 36 kebeles and 48,600 households, have an enhanced understanding of system-based, multi-stakeholder approaches to natural resource management through an on-site experience sharing visit to each other's PNRM sites.

Result 6: Twenty-one members of PRIME partner organizations working in the southern cluster – including CARE, Mercy Corps, Pastoralist Concern and SoS Sahel – have gained understanding and awareness of the best-practices in community-based natural resource management from PLI II, through an on-site, participatory training.

Result 7: Key Field Offices have been established

Result 8: Workplan, PMP and Targets have been finalized.

Result 9: Sampling for the baseline surveys was completed.

1.1 Summary Table

| Activity Description | TARGETS | Progress against targets |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | | |
| BUILDING CAPACITIES, SKILLS & STAKEHOLDER BUY-IN | | |
| Training Partners and stakeholders on Market Systems Diagnostic & Strengthening (MSDS) Methodology | 100 pers. Trained | 75 trained |
| BASIC ENTREPRENEURSHIP ENHANCEMENT | | |
| Understand the People Transitioning out of Pastoralism (TOPs) in their context | 3 assess. /1per region | scheduled May 6-30 |
| Pre-Entrepreneurship & Pre-Employability Capacity Building | 1,000 TOPs assessed in Y1 | scheduled May 6-30 |
| Strengthening Institutions supporting Technical & Entrepreneurship Skills Development | 6 Institutions assessed | scheduled May 6-30 |
| FINANCIAL SERVICES | | |
| Financial Services: MFIs & Banks Strengthening, Expanding & Linking | Work started with 4 Fin Inst | work started with 1 institution |
| LIVELIHOOD DIVERSIFICATION & ENTERPRENEURSHIP | | |
| Pro-Poor Small Animal VC Development | 4 VCAs completed | scheduled May 6-30 |
| Pro-Poor Agriculture VCs | 4 VCs analyzed | scheduled May 6-30 |
| Pro-Poor Infrastructure | 2 VCs analyzed | scheduled May 6-30 |
| Climate Adaptive VCs - Assess. Coordin. & Learning on Efficient/Renewable Energy Technologies | 1 Workshop | Workshop completed |
| Improving Dissemination of Market Information | 3 key market info systems mapped | scheduled May 6-30 |
| LIVESTOCK & LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS LIVELIHOODS - IMPROVED PRODUCTIVITY & COMPETITIVENESS | | |

| | | |
|--|---|---------------------------|
| Strengthened Dairy VC | integrated assmt completed | scheduled May 6-30 |
| Improved Meat Trade | 2,000 HHs report new/increased sales to abattoirs | in process (JESH) |
| INDUSTRY-GROWTH ENABLING ENVIRONMENT | | |
| Other Employment Activities | Labor survey for TOPs employment completed | scheduled May 6-30 |
| EFFECTIVE EMERGENCY PLANNING & RESPONSE FOR PROTECTING HOUSEHOLD ASSETS | | |
| Pre-Plan & Pre-Position for Crisis Modifier Trigger | 30 people trained in emergency tools | 50 people trained in EMMA |
| NRM: Multi-Stakeholder Negotiation on Climate Smart Land Use and NRM Solutions | 4 zonal multi-stakeholder reviews completed | 1 completed |
| Facilitate and Support Land Use Planning that Supports Climate Adaptation | 3 assessments conducted, 1 in each region | scheduled May 6-30 |
| MANAGEMENT AND RESPONSE TO CLIMATE INFO | | |
| Support Climate Smart Livelihood and Adaptation through Market Driven Initiatives (IR1 and 3) | 7 meetings conducted | 2 meetings conducted |
| Project performance enhanced through effective monitoring | Monitoring Systems & Tools developed and in use | Tools developed |
| Project decision-making and adaptations based on strong evidence | Baseline Completed | scheduled May |
| GENDER Integration | Proj Gender Strategy developed | Gender Advisor hired |

2. CORRELATION TO MONITORING PLAN

The purpose of this section is to describe how performance is being monitored, with references to the monitoring plan. However, the PMP has just been submitted to USAID, and the monitoring plan is not yet in place. It is anticipated that this will be completed for the next quarterly report.

3. RESULT BY RESULT ANALYSIS

3.0 Mobilization and Project Start-up

Update and Analysis

Field Offices Established

The CARE Afar field team established its office in Gewane, Afar, at the proposed central office location for the cluster. The Gewane office was fully operational with all finance and administration staff in place beginning March 13, 2013.

Regional Government Meetings around PRIME Facilitated

The PRIME Chief of Party, Deputy Chief of Party, IR2 lead and the PRIME AOR conducted a mission to Afar to meet with regional government partner offices to introduce the PRIME program. The CARE Afar Field Office Program and Operations Manager organized a multi-bureau workshop that included key

representatives from the Regions Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Office, Pastoralist and Agriculture Development Bureau, Health Bureau, and Trade and Industry Bureau. The meeting included representatives from key sub-departments, including the Early Warning Unit, and the Health, Markets and NRM Departments under the Pastoralist and Agriculture Development Bureau.

PRIME's Chief of Party, provided an overview of the PRIME program, and facilitated a question and answer session that allowed all the Bureaus to reflect on the objectives, scope and nature of PRIME. The presence of USAID was critical in clarifying key points raised by the Bureaus in relation to geographic targeting, program scope and approach. All bureaus were given a copy of the PRIME proposal, and asked to comment in anticipation of finalizing the regional government agreement. In addition, the complete budget documents and workplan have been submitted to the region, and are awaiting their final comments.

EMMP Approval

The PRIME Environmental Mitigation and Management Plan was completed and submitted to USAID on February 12th, 2013, in line with its due date. USAID formally approved the document in March. No revisions were requested.

Sub-grantee Agreement Development

Mercy Corps worked with Haramaya University to complete their sub-agreement. This involved multiple meetings to coordinate the research and assessment work of Haramaya University, CARE, Kimetrica, and Mercy Corps. The agreement was signed on March 29, 2013.

CARE also spent considerable time working with SoS Sahel and AISDA PRIME program coordinators in this quarter to finalize their agreement for PRIME. This has included technical support to writing the narrative in a manner that reflected PRIME's approaches, supporting financial staff in understanding the financial template and how to classify expenditures across IRs, and gaining more in-depth technical understanding of the workplan. The SoS Sahel Agreement has been approved technically by all IR leaders, finalized and awaiting final signature from the regional office.

While considerable progress has been made in signing the AISDA agreement, an estimated 30% of the work remains in finalizing the agreement. Much of this is around AISDA's agreement reflecting acceptable technical understanding of the program's approaches, and their ability to budget the program according to the IRs, and the donor funding requirements linked to the funding streams.

ACPA also struggled to show an acceptable understanding of program approaches and technical issues, leading to a delay in signing of a sub-agreement. At the end of the reporting period, ACPA was on the fourth iteration of their workplan and budget.

3.1 Challenges

A key challenge that arose in the Afar Regional Government meeting was the government's reservation to PRIME working in Zone 3 in Afar. In the meeting, government officials emphasized that Zone 3 has been under systematic attack from the neighboring Issa clan in Somali Region, which was motivated by the Issa's effort to extend their land to the Awash River, or what the Issa perceive to be their historical boundaries. Government officials saw the conflict as highly-political, and due to its history and sensitivity, an issue that was beyond the PRIME project's inability to solve. The government highlighted that attacks from the Issa had halted a government villagization program on irrigated land for an Afari community. The primary concern was that market and NRM improvements in Zone 3 would provide increased incentive for Issa expansion, accelerate Issa occupation of Afari lands, and facilitate displacement of both Afari administrative authority and households. An analysis of the Afar land area in question demonstrates that a significant amount of Zone 3 is already demarcated under the Somali Region in current maps, whereas it appeared in Afar Region just 3 years ago.

PRIME is also facing challenges in getting the Somali Regional Agreement signed. Technical comments have not yet been received from government offices, but a number of special interest issues are being raised

and have the potential to slow the signing of the document. There remains the potential that implementation in the Somali Region will be delayed if these issues cannot be resolved quickly.

Another challenge has been the extended agreement development process with AISDA and ACPA, which is primarily due to the partners' limited capacity in understanding the facilitative approach to market development and building climate resilience. Both Mercy Corps and CARE have used the agreement development process as an opportunity for capacity-building, both technical and financial. However, this has extended the agreement finalization for both organizations beyond this second quarter of the program.

Although the IIF Committee was able to meet and approve the first application for JESH – the Jijiga Export Slaughter House, USAID and Mercy Corps have been unable to find a procurement format that is appropriate to the situation, thus delaying the start of any program activities or associated targets.

Finally, identifying appropriate leadership staff has remained a challenge. During the reporting period a suitable candidate for IIF Manager was interviewed, and an offer extended, however after much negotiation the offer was turned down, thus requiring a restart of the recruitment process. Five candidates have been interviewed for the IR4 Leader, and no suitable candidate has yet been identified.

3.2 Result 1: Improved productivity and competitiveness of livestock and livestock products

3.2.1 Update and Analysis

Team Development

CARE, in collaboration with Mercy Corps, has initiated the development of the Afar-based livestock productivity and competitiveness team that will be responsible for the success of this result in the Afar Region. CARE conducted two rounds of advertising in search for an appropriate local candidate for the post of livestock productivity and marketing officer. This individual's understanding and application of the facilitate markets approach will be closely supported by an external, experienced Mercy Corps-recruited Livestock Productivity and Marketing Advisor for the Afar Region. AISDA has also finalized recruitment of a Livestock Productivity Officer to be based in Awash Fentale, while CARE and Mercy Corps expect to finalize their recruitment process early in the upcoming quarter. The team will also be supported by a team of project officers who will be woreda-based, and responsible for implementing identified approaches in their respective woredas. The recruitment for the project officers is also underway. Candidates have been short-listed and are expected to be in place in the upcoming quarter.

Value Chain Information Gathering

As a first step to the Value Chain Analysis (VCA) in PRIME, gathering the available information for 15 selected value chains was conducted during this quarter. This was achieved by consultative workshop that was conducted March 18-22, 2013, in Addis Ababa. From the workshop existing value chain knowledge, lesson learned and best practice from the previous value chain projects was gathered using six different tools designed for the purpose of this workshop. Participants of the workshop were invited from Mercy Corps, PRIME partner organizations, different local and international NGOs, and GoE stakeholders.

For the workshop, about 75 experts participated from various sectors and projects. By so doing it was possible to gather relevant information for 15 subsectors that PRIME intends to intervene during the life of the project. The information obtained was a very good input for the next step of the value chain analysis which is going to be conducted in the following quarter.

Milk value chain development

To enhance market opportunities for dairy producers in the Jijiga and Shinile Zones of the northern Somali Region, the project engaged in two separate sets of market linking activities connecting producer groups with larger milk processors sourcing from each Zone. In Jijiga Zone, the project convened a meeting bringing together a Jijiga dairy processing company called *Berwaqo* and two local cooperative from the Fafan and Bombas towns in Jijiga and Babile woredas. As *Berwaqo* is just starting operations but hopes to source up to 20,000 liters of milk daily (10,000 liters each of camel and cattle milk), organizing this initial meeting was

critical to establishing the foundation of a supply-demand relationship between the processor and supplier cooperatives. (These women's dairy cooperatives and others likely to supply Berwaqo were previously assisted under the RAIN+ project with technical, management and infrastructure supports.) From the meeting, all actors clearly indicated a desire and need to work together on issues of milk quantity, quality, preservation and transportation. All parties agreed to continue to build their communication and relationships as Berwaqo moves closer to starting operations.

In the Shinile Zone of the Somali Region, the project supported additional forward progress with the producer-supplier relationship between Ikufialan and Allamhadle dairy cooperatives operating in Mieso woreda of Shinile Zone and the Addis Kidan milk processing PLC located in Awash, Oromia Region. Resulting from the project's facilitation was the signing of an agreement between the parties whereby the cooperatives will supply 200 liters of fresh milk per day to the company.

Addressing business management gaps identified within both the Ikufialan and Allamhadle dairy cooperatives, the project organized a five-day business management training in Mieso for 25 female participants (15 members of Ikufialan and 10 members of the Allamhadle milk cooperatives participated in the training).

Agricultural Inputs markets

Synergizing with the RAIN+ economic development activities in neighboring East Hararghe, the project supported expansion of innovative post-harvest grain and feed storage technology into seven kebeles of Jijiga and Awbare woredas of Jijiga Zone, SRS. This quarter 732 households took advantage of a project-supported smart subsidy initiative which saw each household invest in a post-harvest storage technology. The complimentary RAIN+ activity disseminated 1,150 of the same technologies to farmers in Midegatola, Gursum, Fadis and Haramaya Woredas of Eash Haraghe, Oromia Region using a similar smart subsidy model.

In addition, the project had follow-on discussions with the GrainPro Africa Representative, a global post with these technology dissemination initiatives, working closely with the RAIN+ project, the PRIME project contracted Jijiga University to work closely with Haramaya and Tufts Universities (both financed separately under the RAIN+ project) and Mercy Corps to study the overall effectiveness, versatility and adoptability of harvest grain storage technology company. This quarter, Haramaya University was able to develop research questions for international institutions, national institutions and local/regional institutions, which were peer reviewed and commented on. They also developed indicators for the research questions and finalized the research tools/methodologies, using consultative meetings and develop formats to be filled by the concerned organizations. GrainPro applauded the innovativeness of the technology both in terms of cost and materials, but indicated GrainPro's interest currently remains focused on higher value commodities. However, they expressed desire to continue to share information on what the project learns about the attributes and economics of working with this customer base and their commodities.

Livestock Inputs Markets

Refresher training for CAHWs: As part of strengthening rural households' access to animal health services, the project organized two seven-day refresher trainings for community-based animal health worker (CAHW) addressing gaps in Dembel (training 1) and in the combined Deghbour and Gashamo area. A total of 29 CAHWS including 2 female CAHWs completed the refresher training. The trainings were a public-private partnership whereby each were led by certified animal health professionals from the Somali Pastoral/Agro-pastoral Research Institute (SOPARI), private veterinary pharmacy (PVP) owners and PRIME veterinary officers. As part of the training methodology, PVPs from the CAHWs' respective woredas were invited to towards the end of the training to offer to have the CAHWs link directly to their PVP enabling long-term, mutually beneficial relationships between the CAHWs and PVPs and ensuring continual supply of relevant animal health services, information and inputs to the rural livestock producers.

Financial Services

Commercial-banking-level: Pastoral areas of Ethiopia continue to struggle to meet the demand for culturally appropriate financial products and services. With the large majority of pastoralists being Muslim, Sharia-compliant or interest-free savings and credit products and services are in high demand. To assist the financial services industry to understand and respond to this opportunity, the project organized and facilitated a workshop for 13 commercial banks operating in Jijiga town. The workshop focused on helping these institutions to better understand Islamic financial products and services as well as the regulatory framework in Ethiopia enabling banks to open 'Islamic Window' in their financial institutions. The project sees this activity as a key foundational step to catalyzing commercial-level access to financial services. By increasing larger businesses' access to such financial products and services, the project anticipates this will contribute significantly to firm- and industry-level growth which is critical to creating jobs for people transitioning out of pastoralism (TOPs), as well as expanding markets for pastoralists' products and supply chains for the inputs pastoralists critically need to improve productivity.

MFI-level: The project continues to support the Somali MFI (SMFI) efforts to expand its network of branches outside of Jijiga city. The project continues to coach and advise senior leadership to the SMFI on these matters, in particular as they expand opening seven new SMFI branches in Deghabour, Kebridehar, Cherati and Tegwachale, Shinile, Godey and Warder woredas across the Somali Region.

Rural-level: During this period, the project focused on supporting 5 Rural Savings and Credit Cooperatives (RuSACCOs) to help prepare them to successfully apply for loans from MFIs. The trainings focused on strengthening better documentation skills and processes, business skills, group formation, governance and leadership, registration books, and the use of vouchers, receipts and pass books. The RuSACCOs supported include the below RuSACCOs which include 362 leadership members of which 275 are women:

1. Fafan RuSACCO in Gursum Somali (30 members (29 female) 31 (23F) 241 members (215 female)
2. Mieso somali (30-6F)
3. Derera kebele of Babile (30-29F),
4. Arero, Oromia
5. Moyale, Oromia
6. Goro Dolla, Oromia
7. Liben, Oromia
8. Hartsheik
9. Ararso,
10. Afdem and
11. Mullu

Lesson Learned from the Value chain Information gathering workshop

To make the workshop effective and to capture the desired information adequately, a pre-workshop survey was conducted by sending out pre-workshop survey formats to partners and stakeholders. Most of the partners and stakeholders completed the survey form and expressed their interest to take part in the workshop. Based on the information they provided on the area of their expertise, agenda and invitation was sent to them to take part in sessions they have selected.

During the actual event, the workshop format used was an open-space format which employed six templates, each of them with a different theme. All six template posters were hung a on the wall and participants were divided into groups and were asked to put together their feedback and experience on to those posters. As a result, information on value chain (VC) actors, identifying of geographic area, identifying the leveraging point for intervention, lessons learned, a plan forward, and annotated bibliography for each of the 15 subsector were able to be gathered. In each of the 15 subsector sessions 20-25 participants attended.

The open-space format of VC was an efficient, cost effective method of information gathering that gave every participant the opportunity to share his/her experience without any limitation. It allowed the PRIME team and external technical experts to discuss important issues in each VC, and was instrumental in the pre-selection of VCs to be chosen for deeper analysis under PRIME.

3.2.2 Challenges

The delay in the finalization of the IR1 team in Afar has primarily been due to the lack of qualified Afari candidates. CARE initially was recruiting a position at the specialist level, but no Afaris applied. Accordingly, CARE decided it was more appropriate to lower the grade of the position to an Officer, and readvertise to find an Afari. The expectation is that the less experienced candidate would be trained and mentored by the Mercy Corps-recruited Livestock Productivity and Marketing Advisor for Afar Region, and thus local market facilitation capacity in this sector could be enhanced. The second round of advertising has been conducted and individuals have been called for interviews in April of the upcoming quarter.

3.3 Result 2: Enhance pastoralists adaptation to climate change

3.3.1 Update and Analysis

Learning Workshops on PRIME Climate Change Adaptation Strategies and CVCA Methodology: PRIME held a series of learning and orientation workshops this quarter to familiarize PRIME consortium members in Addis and in the field with PRIME's approach to Climate Change Adaptation. Specifically, the orientations were designed to examine how PRIME would build awareness and demand for climate change adaptation strategies at the community-level, as well as how it would obtain and analyze critical information linked to the climate vulnerability and capacity context at the local level that will inform interventions across IRs 1, 2, and 3.

The first orientation on PRIME and Climate Change Adaptation took place for two days in early February. In this first training, CARE and the IR2 lead engaged key members of the IR1 and IR3 teams, as well as both Addis and field-based team members from IR2 for SoS Sahel and Haramaya University. As part of the first orientation, PRIME identified two primary tools it will use to meet its results under the CCA intermediate result:

1. **CVCA:** The Climate Vulnerability and Capacity Analysis (CVCA) methodology helps stakeholders build understanding around the implications of climate change on their lives and livelihoods. By combining local knowledge with scientific data, the process builds people's understanding about climate risks and adaptation strategies. It also provides a framework for dialogue among stakeholders. The results provide a solid foundation for the identification of practical strategies to facilitate adaptation to climate change, with communities, private sector actors and government.
2. **CRiSTAL:** The Community-based Risk Screening Tool for Adaptation and Livelihoods (CRiSTAL) is a project planning tool that helps users design activities that support climate adaptation. The tools based on the premise that any intervention that does not account for present and future potential climate risks may inadvertently increase a community's exposure and vulnerability. CRiSTAL seeks to systematically assess the impacts of a project on some of the local determinants of vulnerability and exposure, so that project planners and managers can design activities that foster climate adaptation.

In late February, CARE, Mercy Corps and Haramaya University came together in a two-day workshop to map out in detail how the CVCA process would be rolled out. The goal was to define the specific objectives and areas of analysis for the CVCA as relevant to PRIME, and develop a corresponding detailed workplan for rolling out the methodology. As part of assigning roles and responsibilities, Haramaya University was assigned the regional and federal component of the CVCA, which focused on workshops and assessments to support an analysis of the institutional environment that influences community vulnerability and capacity

Building Demand for Climate Change Adaptation: Rolling out CVCA and CRiSTAL

Four consortia trainings and orientations conducted on PRIME and Climate Change Adaptation

Technical and management leaders from 7 consortia partners participate in the orientations, including 18 individuals from Addis and 19 from field.

Roles, responsibilities and timeframes for rolling out CVCA at the field level have been established.

Training manuals for Field Level CVCA workshops and participatory analysis developed

Training dates in specific tools of participatory analysis for data gathering and information synthesis established for April 22nd – April 26th.

Dates for field-level workshops and assessments using the CVCA tool set for May.

towards CCA. CARE's IR2 leadership team took on the role of developing a PRIME-specific training manual for rolling out the CVCA at the local government and community levels. In addition, the IR2 and IR3 teams agreed to develop a climate vulnerability/adaptive capacity checklist for value chain analyses.

At the end of this quarter, CARE held two follow-up CVCA learning workshops for the rest of the PRIME team. This included the IR leadership team, the CoP, the technical advisors in the field, technical field officers, and program managers who did not have the first orientation in February. The follow-up trainings ensured that the entire leadership team and key technical staff across the consortium had a shared understanding of the climate change adaptation concepts related to PRIME. These final workshops set the stage for the detailed training in the field methodology for rolling out the CVCA at the community-level, which are scheduled to take place at the outset of the upcoming quarter.

Tool Development for Understanding Markets, Hazards and Climate Change Adaptation

Based on the learning from the CCA/CVCA orientations, and the understanding of the PRIME market-based approach, the IR2 leadership team refined and developed tools and manuals to assist with the roll out of the CVCA methodology. This included a CVCA rapid analysis for value chains and a field guide for rolling out a climate vulnerability and capacity analysis with local stakeholders. The information and analysis captured through the CVCA will be fed through CRiSTAL to enhance project decision-making, and to ensure all market-related activities directly support climate resilience, and avoid making communities maladaptive.

The CCA Value Chain Analysis tool will support PRIME to systematically analyze the level of vulnerability or resilience of different value chain actors, their business and commodities to existing and predicted climate hazards, such as increased severity and frequency of droughts and hazards.

Climate Adaptive Energy Innovations

Solar: At the end of the quarter, the project arranged a field visit to Jijiga for the Global Director of Marketing for Barefoot Power Ltd (BFP). BFP has been in discussions with the project to extend their productive collaboration with Mercy Corps in neighboring Uganda and elsewhere into the Ethiopian market, in particular focusing on the PRIME projects targeted beneficiary population. While the actual field visits occurred in the first week of the third quarter, this report reports that the visit was very productive. The representative came with samples of her product demonstrating to women's dairy cooperatives, private veterinary pharmacies (PVPs) and their linked community-based animal health workers (CAHWs), the Somali MFI, and a potential Somali importer/distributor. In the end, the Somali distributor placed an initial order for roughly 500 units from BFP to pilot test on the local market using his existing supply chains. If successful, he indicated plans to supply the dairy cooperatives, PVPs, CAHWs, Somali MFI and others for retail sales and extension. The project is currently reviewing an MOU requested by BFP to outline cost-share support to BFP's efforts training its new Somali importer/distributor and build his market development capacity.

Energy-efficient stoves: Both rural and urban households and small businesses are well aware of the rising cost of firewood and charcoal resulting from increasing pressures and the effects of changing climate. Under the RAIN+ project, this evolving demand was observed and studied including the carrying out of an energy poverty study. The PRIME project picked up these trends and as part its mandate to support introduction and scaling of transformative new technologies conducted a rapid market assessment in Jijiga, Kebribeyah and Hartisheik towns of Jijiga Zone, SRS. The assessment also looked at readiness of demand for purchasing solar lanterns. This information will assist the project to identify partners with high leverage point to the project as they grow their energy-efficient stove supply chains through the region.

USFS Proposal Development Mission In mid-March, PRIME hosted a one week USFS mission to visit the program. The focus of the mission was the development of a proposal of how USFS would support PRIME to obtain scientific information that can enhance its natural resource management interventions. This includes access to scientific data around changes in land use pattern and climates, and their combined effects on land potential and vegetation. The purpose of the scientific analysis is to support higher-level policy-makers as well as communities to define more appropriate land use plan and land management practices that support

livelihood objectives under IR 1 and 3, as well as to track changes of PRIME interventions on resource conditions.

During the mission, the scientific analysis tools were defined to include remote sensing analysis, meteorological trend analysis, and ground-truthing surveys around vegetation and soil. The USFS team that supported the mission included an expert ecologist, remote sensing analysis, and the USFS Program Manager responsible for PRIME. PRIME engaged the USFS team in a three day workshop with the PRIME NRM/CC Addis-based and field technical teams from Mercy Corps, CARE and SoS Sahel.

Based on the concepts discussed in the workshop, USFS developed a draft proposal which was debriefed with USAID and IR2. A final proposal with a budget proposition is expected to come forth early in the following quarter. USFS also planned the scope of their follow-up mission around implementing the plan for June.

PLI II NRM Transition and Experience-Sharing and Learning Workshop around Community-based Natural Resource

Management Sites in Borena-Guji During the reporting period, PRIME held conversations with members of the SCI team to better understand the lessons-learned and experience of PLII in community-based natural resource management, and developed a transition plan jointly with USAID and PLI II leadership. The transition plan included a handover of maps, materials, and learning documents, as well as mapping out in detail the community and local government stakeholders who were largely behind the work at the community level.

The transition plan included a learning and experience-sharing workshop around the successful PLI II sites in Borena and Guji, which was facilitated jointly by CARE and Mercy Corps in communication with the SCI Field Office in Negelle. The objectives of the workshop included improved understanding of a landscape-level participatory natural resource management process by PRIME implementing partners, as well as experience-sharing towards improved practice among the traditional institutions and governments.

We *dheda* (management unit) leaders dismantled our private enclosures immediately, once we understood the problem. This opened mobility. Others saw the benefits and they followed us. Your leaders keep their enclosures but ask the community to take down theirs. This is why you cannot function.

- *Leader of Dida Dheda, during the NRM Learning Workshop speaking to the leaders of the Golba Genale Dheda.*

PRIME NRM/CC teams from the southern cluster offices of Mercy Corps, CARE, SoS Sahel and Pastoralist Concern, along with the NRM expert for PRIME from Haramaya University took part in the 3 day process, which engaged local government from the two woredas, and the community institutions from 3 management units spanning 36 kebeles and 48,600 households. The learning event included a visit to all three natural resource management sites, a discussion on the process that led to the strengthening of the management system in the area, the impacts, challenges faced and lessons-learned. As per the workshop objectives, in addition to partners' learning about the advantages and approaches of applying the PNRM process at the community level, the event also facilitated learning among the elders and management units themselves. As part of the workshop, PRIME identified with the stakeholders how it can continue to provide support to their PNRM practices, as well as how the stakeholders can help share their learning and experience with pastoralist communities from other PRIME intervention areas.

Natural Resources Management consultation meeting

In the reporting quarter, three community and Woreda level meetings with 11 participants (of which 3 are from government offices) was conducted in three kebeles of GoroDolla district of Guji zone. During the meeting lack of materials, tools and skilled manpower in the soil and engineering part identified as the major gaps.

Natural Resource Management committee establishment

An NRM committee formation meeting was held in Dhas with 65 participants (community leaders, Woreda officials and Kebele leaders) where a committee with 32 (27male) members was established.

Community Participatory Mapping and Community Action Plan

With the objectives of setting selection criteria and having reconnaissance survey and select a kebele for NRM CFW activity, Community Participatory Mapping and Community Action Plan (CAP) preparation activity has been done in Goro-Dola Woreda. First four kebeles-Wato, Dilalessa, Bururi and Sirba kebeles visited and based on the level of natural resource degradation intensity, Dilalessa identified as NRM CFW intervention kebele. Then Participatory Resource Mapping has been carried out for this kebele.

Likewise, in Hudet, Dhedhertu kebele resource mapping has been conducted with the participation of 13 people from community, 2 from Woreda LCRD office and 2 from Mercy Corps.

Afar Early Warning Systems

As part of its regional visit to Afar Regional State, CARE and Mercy Corps engaged in a conversation with the Head of the Afar's Disaster Preparedness and Food Security Office around how the early warning system in Afar Regional State functions. The key message from the head of the Bureau was that they have a number of funding sources for the Early Warning System, including PCDP and the UN. She also emphasized that local data collectors were well trained on the data collection systems, and data was coming in systematically. The key challenges identified to the system included:

- Slow information flow from data collectors in the field to the regional-level, due to poor communication infrastructure
- Data Analysis: due to a lack of a computerized data analysis system, the production of a quality bulletin is delayed or limited.

The IR leadership team also met with SCI's Early Warning representative in Afar to better understand how far their program supported the Afar Regional State in the EWS. The main challenge identified for follow-up action is strengthening information flow and analysis back down to the community-level, so that communities could begin to make decisions in relation to this information.

3.3.2 Challenges

PRIME has faced a challenge in ensuring a smooth transition of PLI II USAID-funded activities to PRIME that fall under IR 2. This includes the Community-based Natural Resource Management activities, as well as transitioning the PLI-II supported Early Warning Systems at the regional level in Somali and Afar Regions. PRIME has experienced a particular challenge in information transfer from PLI II, but has nonetheless moved forward with implementing the PLI II transition plan linked to this IR. PRIME will continue to make an effort to ensure that any subsequent implementation around the former SCI EWS and NRM initiatives are done in close consultation and coordination with the SCI implementing team.

3.4 Result 3: Strengthened alternative livelihoods for households transitioning out of pastoralism

3.4.1 Update and Analysis

Team Development PRIME has initiated the development of the Afar-based market-based livelihood diversification team that will be responsible for the success of this result in the Afar Region. CARE has done two rounds of advertising for a livelihood diversification and marketing officer, whose understanding and capacity of the markets approach will be supported by an external Mercy Corps-recruited and experienced Market-based Livelihood Development Advisor for the Afar Region. The recruitment for these positions is in process and is expected to be finalized early in the upcoming quarter. The team will also be supported by a team of project officers who will be woreda-based, and responsible for implementing identified approaches in their respective woredas. The recruitment for the project officers is also underway. Candidates have been short-listed and are expected to be in place in the upcoming quarter.

Rapid Assessment and Learning around *Prosopis* Value Chain and Clearing PRIME has begun investigating both *prosopis* removal options in Afar, as well as understanding the market options related to *prosopis* harvesting. Specifically, during its visit to Afar, PRIME stopped to talk to charcoal producers, who make a living renting *prosopis* -invaded land from Afari clans and harvesting *prosopis* for charcoal production. The quick interviews allowed CARE to broadly map out the value chain. CARE also

participated in the Mercy Corps-organized knowledge-sharing session around *prosopis* value chains, and has met with Farm Africa to discuss their long years of experience working on *prosopis* invasion. Furthermore, CARE discussed with USFS options for mechanized clearing, and will be meeting with *prosopis* experts to further understand the most effective manner for pastoralists to address their land invasion by this species.

Support to scoping mission of Afar MFI development

CARE's field and operations manager supported Mercy Corps mission to scope out the MFI in Afar, and participated in a series of meetings around.

3.4.3 Challenges

As in IR 1, CARE has faced a challenge in developing its IR 3 team due to a lack of qualified Afari candidates in this area, even with minimal qualifications and understanding of the subject matter.

3.5 Result 4: Enhanced innovation, learning and knowledge management

3.5.1 Update and Analysis

Workplan Finalization and Target Development

Based on comments from USAID on PRIME's first draft workplan submission, the CoP and IR Leaders finalized the workplan for PRIME's first year. The workplan was created through a participatory week-long partners meeting in December, and then finalized through multiple follow-on meetings, feedback from the Mission, and consultation with other organizations implementing in pastoral areas. Targets developed for year 1 were mostly focused on outputs and operational issues, as the results of PRIME's systemic change will not be seen in the first, or perhaps even second. The strategy taken by the PRIME team is to lay appropriate ground work, do capacity building, and identify leverage points for transformational change.

PMP Development

The development of the PMP took place during the second quarter of the program and was started by Kimetrica, and completed by the CoP, with extensive consultation from the IR leaders. The final PMP was submitted to USAID on April 4, and is being used for the planning and implementation of the baseline surveys. The PMP was also uploaded on the Ki-Projects software (project management), which the Management Team hopes to use as a management tool. The PMP is available for review from the Ki-Projects system.

Baseline Survey

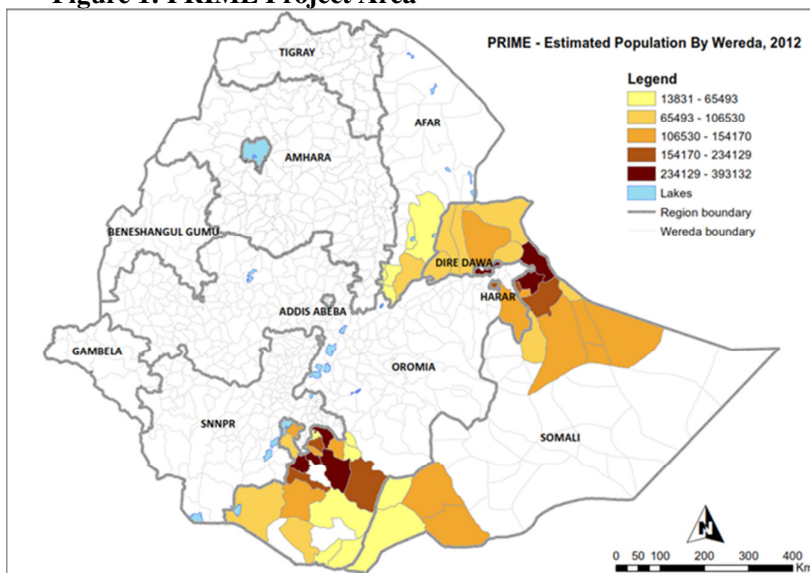
The baseline survey is scheduled to start in Mid-April 2013 in the project zone (Oromia - Borena & Guji Zones; Afar and Somali Region) of influence to collect baseline values on the key performance and risk indicators (from the PMP indicators).

In preparation for the baseline survey various preparatory activities have started:

- A baseline survey implementation plan was created, this plan includes in-depth details on sampling method, budget, logistics, and personnel involved in the baseline survey.
- The Baseline questionnaires have been created and sent out for review (household, Woreda profile, market level, and institutional questionnaires). These questionnaires have also been uploaded onto ki-metrics (the monitoring and evaluation software system) in preparation for data entry and analysis.
- A sampling frame has been developed and sample Woredas and Kebeles selected for the Afar and Oromia regions. The Somali region sample frame and sample selection will be completed before the start of the baseline survey on the 15th of April. The sample frames and selected items were sampled systematically in two stages using PPS (Probability Proportion of Size) where the measure of size was the population. In Afar, the first stage-sampling frame only has 6 Woredas, one of these was much larger than the sampling interval and was therefore selected with a probability of 1 and then 3 other sample Woredas selected using PPS.
- Training manuals for enumerators and supervisors have been created and reviewed internally. These manuals will include information on household listing and positioning (using GPS units) and will provide guidelines to ensure accurate and timely collection of data.

- Field-testing of the questionnaires has been done and the results of the test have been incorporated into the baseline surveys.
- Preparations for the baseline survey logistics (e.g. field vehicles, enumerators, and EA maps, stationary materials have taken place) have been organized and recruitment for one coordinator, two supervisors and 10 data collectors per region has taken place.
- A PRIME map has also been developed (see figure 1).

Figure 1: PRIME Project Area



Design and Rollout of M&E and Partner Reporting System

A draft partner reporting format has been developed and uploaded onto the monitoring and evaluation system (Ki-Metrics). This will provide partners with a platform to report on their activities to Mercy Corps. In addition, partners will also be able to report through the system, the challenges they encountered and the expenditures related to the implemented activity during that particular quarter. Kimetrica will take Mercy Corps through the proposed formats and the system in the coming weeks.

A quick overview (demo) of the M&E system (Ki-Metrics) and Project management (Ki-Projects) software was presented to the IR and Mercy Corps leaders. The brief overview demo covered the following;

- Project management functions, including the log frames, the indicators lists and the work plan (content already developed for IR 4 will be used during the demo)
- M&E functions: data capture system (how the forms look online, how data can be entered), indicators (what is the link between the data forms and the indicators), reporting options (what kind of reports can be produced using the software)

Systematic facility, service and resource mapping

Kimetrica has partially completed the mapping of potential sources of secondary data and has started to build up an information/data repository. Important documents/ secondary data collected include:

1. 2011/12 Agricultural Sample Survey (CSA), Livestock and Livestock Characteristics (Volume II)
2. 2010/11 Agricultural Sample Survey (CSA), Livestock and Livestock Characteristics (Volume II)
3. 2009/10 Agricultural Sample Survey (CSA), Livestock Product Utilization (Volume VII).

Kimetrica was also able to get in touch with sources of data/ information that deal with livestock market and product trends, market chains, market and product reports, etc. The following organizations were visited:

- a. Federal Ministry of Agriculture
- b. Ministry of Federal Affairs
- c. Oromia Region Agriculture Bureau
- d. Central Statistics Agency

Special studies

For the special studies a selection criterion has been developed by Kimetrica staff. This will be submitted to review by Mercy Corps. Relevant documents on pastoralist and livestock in Ethiopia have been uploaded onto the Ki-Projects (project management software). Any policy research done by Haramaya University can be uploaded onto the Ki-Projects system.

Consortium and Partner Management Information Tools

The PRIME work plan that has been submitted to USAID has been uploaded onto the Ki-Projects system. A work plan for each IR has been uploaded. Meeting feedback and partner satisfaction/perceptions of consortium performance format have been created and also uploaded on the Ki-Project system.

Coordination and Management

To facilitate coordination and management a model/code of conduct for partner M&E engagement was developed and will be distributed. In addition, field arrangements for vehicles, enumerators, and logistics have taken place only for the baseline survey.

3.5.2 Challenges

The key challenges to developing the program's workplan and PMP have been linked to the program's complexity, particularly around the inter-dependency in the intermediate results, and need of carefully sequencing of activities to achieved desired results. Conventional PMP formats often do not allow this complexity to be captured.

There are also concerns that the Ki-Projects software will be unable to handle the complexity and interconnectedness of the PRIME project. More work needs to be done with IR Leaders and Kimetrica to determine how useful this project management tool will be.

4. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

4.1 Offices, Equipment and Logistics

The PRIME project works with multiple partners across a wide geographic area. The head office in Addis Ababa is hosted by Mercy Corps, in addition to field offices in Oromiya and Somali Region. CARE hosts field offices in Gewane (Afar) and Yabello (Oromia).

It is important to note that co-location is an important aspect of consortia dynamics in PRIME. All partners have been strongly encouraged to co-locate in field and even the Addis office. In Addis co-location means partner staff sitting in the PRIME office for 2-4 days a week. In the field, the partner staff may be permanently located (operating from) a field office of another organization. The PRIME Leadership Team (comprising heads of all consortia agencies) is in discussions on the practicalities of this system, but all agencies are supportive of the initiative and excited about the potential for improved coordination.

The chart on the next page provides a snapshot of the status of office establishment, staffing and vehicle procurement across the PRIME office locations. The staffing levels shown in each office may change as co-location discussions progress.

| | Location | Hosting Org | Office Open | | Staffing | | Vehicles | |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------|----|----------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | Yes | No | Plan | Hired | Planned | Have |
| Addis | Addis Ababa | Mercy Corps | | | 57 | +2 | 2 | 1 |
| Afar | Gewane | CARE | x | | 22 | 12 | 3 | 1 |
| | Semara | CARE | x | | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | Awash Fentale | AISDA | | x | 12 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Oromiya | Yabello - Borena | CARE | x | | 23 | 17 | 3 | 1 |
| | Negelle | Mercy Corps | x | | 42 | 39 | 5 | 0 |
| | Moyale | Mercy Corps | x | | 17 | 16 | 2 | 0 |
| | Haramaya | Haramaya | x | | 30 | 4 | 1 | 0 |
| Somali Region | Jijiga | Mercy Corps | x | | 37 | 34 | 4 | 0 |
| | Dire Dawa | Mercy Corps | | x | 27 | 24 | 3 | 1 |
| | Dollo | Pastoralist Concern | x | | 26 | 15 | 2 | 0 |

4.2 Personnel and Staffing

Mercy Corps continues to seek staff for four important positions: Innovation and Investment Fund Manager, IR4 Leader, Communications Officer, and Capacity Building Officer. Interviews were held for the IIF Manager and IR4 Leader. No suitable candidates were identified for the IR4 position, and so the search continues. A suitable candidate for the IIF Manager was identified, however after negotiations no agreement could be reached on salary and the offer was turned down. Both positions have been re-advertised.

However, an IIF Assistant has been identified, and will begin work on May 1. It is anticipated that this individual can provide administrative support to the IIF to ensure that compliance issues are addressed, and there is appropriate follow up on approved applications. A Gender Advisor has also been identified to start in Q3; this individual will work closely with all IRs to provide technical support regarding incorporating gender issues into PRIME activities.

CARE conducted interviews for a Field NRM/CC Advisor for Somali Region, but was unable to find the right candidate from the shortlist of the pool of applicants. Accordingly, CARE had to re-advertise for the position. In the second instance, CARE worked closely with Mercy Corps' Jijiga Office to ensure that advertisement was widely posted around Somali Region, to encourage local candidates to apply. The second round of candidates has been shortlisted and interviews will take place in the third week of the upcoming quarter. ACPA has hired three PRIME program staff, including a Project Manager, Natural Resource Manager and Technical Officer, each of whom devote 100% of their time to PRIME project. Kimetrica has two staff members based in Addis Ababa.

For other issues related to staffing, please refer to "team development" under IRs 1 and 3 above.

4.2.1 New Hires and Departures

Please see the table below for a list of those hired or departing the project during the reporting period:

New Hires

| Mercy Corps | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Name | Position | Start Date | Notes |
| Jeton Starova | IR1 Leader | March 10, 2013 | Addis Based |
| Mohamed Ali | Planned IR5 Leader | Upon USAID approval of CE | Joined the team in a consultative way, providing input to the PMP |

| | | | |
|----------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|
| | | | and Baseline Survey questions and attending regular management meetings. He will join the team permanently when the pending Nutrition Cost Extension is formally approved by USAID. |
| CARE | | | |
| Name | Position | Start Date | Notes |
| Hussein Miyo | Field NRM/CC Advisor – Oromiya/South Somali Cluster | | Former PLI II SC/UC officer, who was largely behind the success of the local PNRM initiatives in the cluster |
| Elias Ebrahim | Field NRM/CC Advisor - Afar | | A former regional employee, was instrumental in supporting the development of the Afar Land Use Plan, which assigns management rights of land to Afari clans |
| Mandefro Gebretsadik | Field Office Program and Operations Manager (FOPOM) - Afar | | Former PLI II Program Manager for CARE in Afar, and Acting FOPOM; after a competitive interview, the position is now finalized |
| Semhal Getachew | Gender Advisor | | Previously CARE Ethiopia's Women's Empowerment and Gender Advisor; also interviewed by and approved by the PRIME CoP |
| SoS Sahel | | | |
| Name | Position | Start Date | Notes |
| Abdeta Debella | Program Coordinator | February 5 th , 2013 | Addis Based |
| AISDA | | | |
| Name | Position | Start Date | Notes |
| ACPA | | | |
| Name | Position | Start Date | Notes |
| KIMETRICA | | | |
| Name | Position | Start Date | Notes |
| Erick Ngwiri | Sub-contract Coordinator | 18 th March 2013 | Staff based in Nairobi |
| Girum Haile | Knowledge Management Assistant | 1 st March 2013 | Staff based in Addis |
| Mehari Belachew | Knowledge Management Advisor | 1 st January 2013 | Staff based in Addis |
| David Megill | Sampling expert | 1 st March 2013 | Consultant |
| Ahmed | Natural Resource project officer | 01/02/2013 | |

Staff Departures:

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| ACPA | | | |
| Name | Position | Start Date | Notes |
| Mukhtar Hussien Ali | Project Coordinator | 05/12/2012 | Departed on 1/02/2013 |
| KIMETRICA | | | |
| Name | Position | Start Date | Notes |
| Nihad Hanaa Jeilan | Project Coordinator | N/A | Replaced by Erick |

| | | | |
|-------|--|--|--------|
| Habib | | | Ngwiri |
|-------|--|--|--------|

4.2.2 Priority Recruitment

As discussed above, due to the challenges of finding appropriate candidates, PRIME had to conduct a second round of advertisement for a number of positions, including the IR4 leader. Finding and IR4 Leader with the appropriate qualifications in both the managerial and technical fields has been difficult and several candidates have been interviewed but none have proved successful. For the IIF Manager position an offer was extended to a candidate who ultimately turned down the position and the team had to re-advertise the position. The shortlisted candidates for the second round of advertisement have been identified, and interviews are expected to take place early in the upcoming quarter. Accordingly, the priority recruitment positions for Mercy Corps and CARE in the upcoming quarter that are well underway include:

- IR4 Leader
- IIF Manager
- Field NRM/CC Advisor – Eastern Cluster
- Program Manager – Afar

4.2.3 International Consultants and STTA

PRIME benefitted from the services of international consultants and headquarters STTA during the reporting period, including the following:

Patrick Sommerville, an expert in enterprise development and strategic management, provided support on the development of the Innovation and Investment Fund. He worked with the first two “bankable” projects to prepare their IIF application, and drafted the Fund Manual for PRIME.

Angie Daze, a Climate Change Adaptation expert in the Horn of Africa and an independent consultant, supported PRIME in understanding key issues around CCA in Ethiopia, facilitated a discussion of strategies, and supported a broad introduction to the CVCA toolkit. Angie had previously worked for CARE under the organizations global Poverty, Environment and Climate Change Network.

David Megill has been contracted to develop the sampling frame for the project area. We will be recruiting several data quality control personnel to work in the PRIME regions. We have sub-contracted a firm to assist us with the baseline survey in regards to logistics etc.

4.3 Partners

4.3.1 PRIME Consortium Partner Updates

Please see above under Start-up and Mobilization, section 3.0

4.3.2 Other Collaborating Partners

Under IR2, PRIME has initiated conversation and developed plans for collaboration with the following projects/agencies.

- **ACCRA:** PRIME has initiated dialogue with the African Climate Change and Resource Alliance, a consortium organization in the Horn of Africa, of which CARE is a part. ACCRA has been established to promote knowledge management, learning and dialogue around climate change at a policy-level, while facilitating tools and methodologies to ensure understanding locally. PRIME has discussed with ACCRA to link into the following initiatives:
 - Utilization of a “game” tool developed by ACCRA to facilitate dialogue around climate change through a forward-thinking, flexible-decision-making approach.
 - Working with ACCRA to develop a tool for facilitating the development of community investment plans, linked to the Government of Ethiopia’s Climate Resilient and Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy.
 - Supporting woredas to update their disaster risk profiles, and develop disaster risk management plans based on CARE’s CVCA approach, a broader strategy that ACCRA is supporting at the national level.

- **CIFOR:** Under IR2, PRIME has linked into research done by Center for International Forestry Research around gums and resins, to examine the options for market development in this area.
- **SCI :** As mentioned above, IR3 has been working to systematically collaborate with SCI towards the handover of relevant activities, and to ensure that learning and recognized best-practices around NRM are transferred from PLI II
- **Ministry of Agriculture Land Use Planning Unit:** PRIME's IR2 team has begun a series of discussions with MoA around their land use planning process. MoA has identified experts that can work with PRIME in its efforts to enhance community-based land use planning towards climate change adaptation. MoA has also provided PRIME with detailed land use plans developed for federal and regional consumption by contractors for the PRIME regions of intervention.

5. PLANNED ACTIVITIES

In the upcoming quarter, the following activities are planned:

- Baseline Assessment and Rapid Market Assessment of 8 Value Chains
- Signing of the first two IIF investments
- Development of Crisis Modifier triggers and procedures
- Regional Launch and signing Government agreements in Afar, Oromia, and Somali Regions.
- Field Tool Implementation Training for CVCA and PRNM field implementers
- CVCA and PNRM awareness-raising and assessment workshops at local government and community level across all clusters; information consolidation, validation and planning workshops; workplan revision.
- Experience-sharing visits from Somali and Afar Regions to Borena PNRM sites
- Development of prosopis removal plan, combining community based management with mechanized removal.
- Roll out of PNRM tool across southern cluster
- Strengthening linkages and engagement in ACCRA.
- Planning for exchange visit to Kenya to examine communal land tenure models

6. FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Expenditure Breakdown by IR:

| | |
|---|-----------|
| IR1: Improved productivity and competitiveness of livestock and livestock products | \$122,432 |
| IR2: Enhanced adaptation to climate change | \$33,071 |
| IR3: Development of alternative livelihoods for households' transition out of pastoralism | \$184,643 |
| IR4: Enhanced innovation, learning and knowledge management | \$496,049 |
| Innovation & Investment Funds | \$0 |
| Crisis Modifier | \$0 |
| Total to date | \$836,195 |

Expenditure Breakdown by Funding Stream:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Climate Change Adaptation | \$302,943 |
| Feed the Future (FtF) | \$533,260 |
| Crisis Modifier | \$0 |
| Total | \$836,194 |